

Remarks:

This amendment includes cancellation of claims 1 and 2, and the addition of claim 3, which is substantially the same as claim 1 with the omission of the word "means". This amendment also includes the cancellation of five lines of text in the specification on page 7 which addressed figures in the applicant's specification which were not applicable.

Applicant has reviewed and considered the office action. Applicant traverses the objection for the following reasons.

The reference of Smith does not include pressure sensitive adhesive between the middle spacers and flat plate, and between the outer pieces and the middle pieces. The applicant's claim 3 distinguishes with respect to structure over the Smith reference.

The reference of Symonds although it suggests attaching perhaps an end cap piece to a flat plate piece, there is no teaching of providing a middle spacer piece between the flat plate piece and the outer pieces. Also, there is no teaching of attaching these outer pieces with adhesive. Therefore, the reference of Symonds fails to overcome the deficiencies of the Smith reference with respect to the applicants claimed invention.

The reference of Vogeli does not teach pressure sensitive adhesive between the middle spacers and flat plate, and between the outer pieces and the middle pieces.

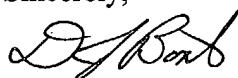
Accordingly, claim 3 should be allowed.

The objection to the drawings in paragraph 3 on page 2 of the office action summary is traversed in view of applicant's amendment of page 7 of the specifications in which applicant has deleted any mention of figures 2A-2D.

Accordingly, the drawings should be allowed.

Summary: The objections as stated in the office action summary have been overcome by canceling claims 1 and 2 and adding claim 3. Claim 3 overcomes the objection to claim 1 by removing the word "means" from sections d. and e. of claim 1. The canceling of all text in the specification on page 7 which referred to figures 2A-2D overcomes the objection to the drawings.

Sincerely,



Donald Jeffrey Boatwright